



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/904,965 | 07/13/2001 | Lisa Steury | 40655.2200 | 3802 |
| 66170 | 7590 | 12/31/2007 | EXAMINER | |
| AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES CO., INC. c/o SNELL & WILMER, L.L.P. ONE ARIZONA CENTER 400 E. VAN BUREN STREET PHOENIX, AZ 85004-2202 | | | | SHEIKH, ASFAND M |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| 3627 | | | | |
| NOTIFICATION DATE | | | DELIVERY MODE | |
| 12/31/2007 | | | ELECTRONIC | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

HSOBELMAN@SWLAW.COM
DMIER@SWLAW.COM
JESLICK@SWLAW.COM

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/904,965 | STEURY ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Asfand M. Sheikh | 3627 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 October 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 10, 17-22 and 29-33 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 10, 17-22 and 29-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

The amendment filed on 10/22/2007 has been entered. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 17-22 and 29-33 are pending for examination. Claims 29-33 are new claims that are supported from the originally-filed specification. The examiner notes new grounds of rejection are established, therefore this action is made final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 17-22 and 29-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vance in view of Kelley.

Vance teaches receiving a Passenger Name Record from a travel reservation system is a computer reservation system (see at least, col. 5, lines 59-63), wherein said Passenger Name Record includes information related to said travel related costs and multiple accounts (e.g. plurality) (see at least, col. 5, lines 13-17); obtaining a user profile comprising allocation information wherein said allocation information defines an allocation of said travel cost(see at least, col. 5, lines 13-17 and col. 14, line 13-col. 14, line 65); charging said account according to said user profile, for said travel cost and any other fee (e.g. cost) related to said travel related transaction (see at least, col. 5, lines 13-17 and col. 14, line 13-col. 14, line 65); and provide an enhances descriptive billing statement wherein said enhances descriptive billing statement: (i)

recites said travel cost related to said travel-related transaction (see at least, col. 5, lines 13-17 and col. 14, line 13-col. 14, line 65) and shows reconciliation (see at least, Fig. 16l).

Vance fails to teach multiple accounts that are associated to one another are separately charged based on the association to said travel related cost to each respective account and providing an enhanced descriptive billing statement which: (ii) separately recites said agency fee; and (iii) recites indicia indicating that said agency fee and said travel cost are related to each other.

Kelly teaches multiple accounts that are associated to one another are separately charged/billed based on the association to said cost of service to each respective account (see at least, 0013-0014) and providing an enhanced descriptive billing statement which: (ii) separately recites said cost associated fee; and (iii) recites indicia indicating that said cost associated fee that are related to each other (see at least, abstract 0013-0015: the examiner notes a separation process would list each cost of service and how it relates to each respective account).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Vance to include multiple accounts that are associated to one another are separately charged/billed based on the association to said cost of service to each respective account and providing an enhanced descriptive billing statement which: (ii) separately recites said cost associated fee; and (iii) recites indicia indicating that said cost associated fee that are related to each other as taught by Kelly. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to combine the teachings in order to reasonably allocated charges to that they can be properly paid for by each respective party (see at least, 0007).

The examiner further notes Kelly teaches the multiple accounts that are associated to one another are separately charged/billed based on a profile (see at least, 0014), are associated with rules (see at least, 0014), and multiple accounts (see at least, 0014). The examiner notes similar motivation is used to combine with Vance.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-6, 8, 10, 17-22 and 29-33 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asfand M. Sheikh whose telephone number is (571)272-1466. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8a-4:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan M. Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Asfand M Sheikh
Examiner
Art Unit 3627

/Asfand M Sheikh/
Examiner, Art Unit 3627

12/23/2007

/Gerald J. O'Connor/
Primary Examiner
Group Art Unit 3627